Business waste

Your Duty of Care

All business owners have a duty of care regarding their waste to ensure that it is disposed of correctly. A business owner must be able to account for the transfer of their waste.

What counts as business waste

All waste generated from a commercial activity is business waste.

Business waste also includes any waste that comes from:

- **Construction**
- **Demolition**
- **Industry**
- **Agriculture**

Bengali বাংলা Punjabi ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
Lithuanian Lietuviškai Slovakian Slovensky
Polish Polski Turkish Türkçe

Your responsibilities

- Keep waste to a minimum by doing everything you can to prevent, reuse, recycle or recover waste
- Store and present your waste securely, so that it does not cause litter or attract vermin

- Use a waste carrier or disposal site that is registered with the Environment Agency
- Keep all your contract and transfer records for a minimum of 2 years
- Give these records to the relevant authority if requested

medway.gov.uk/businesswaste

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Business waste FAQs

Isn't the cost of waste disposal included in my business rates?

No — businesses must make their own arrangements to collect and dispose of their waste.

My business does not produce waste — what should I do?

All businesses produce waste. This includes post and junk mail, damaged or old equipment, packaging from deliveries, food and drink eaten by staff (including packaging), cleaning materials and office paper.

Can I use the Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres?

No — these facilities are not for the disposal of waste generated by businesses.

Can I take my glass, paper and card to a local council recycling site?

No — taking it to a council recycling site or asking staff to do so, does not meet the requirements of your duty of care.

Failure to comply with the Duty of Care requirements is a criminal offence which could result in a fixed penalty notice or if prosecuted, an unlimited fine.

You can find out more here: **gov.uk/dispose-business-commercial-waste** or scan the code